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SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
MAY 3, 1884

CONSTITUTION



NEW YORK
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1889

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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

THE name of the Society shall be "SONS OF THE REVOLUTION."

ARTICLE II.

THE Society shall be perpetual, and one and indivisible.

ARTICLE III.

THE purpose of the Society is to keep alive among ourselves and our descendants the patriotic spirit of the men who, in military, naval or civil service, by their acts or counsel, achieved American Independence; to collect and secure for preservation the manuscript rolls, records and other documents relating to the war of the Revolution, and to promote social intercourse and good feeling among its members now and hereafter.

ARTICLE IV.

ANY person shall be eligible for membership in the Society who is a male above the age of twenty-one (21) years, and who is descended from an ancestor who, either as a military or naval officer, soldier, sailor, or as an official

in the service of any one of the thirteen original Colonies or States, or of the National Government representing or composed of those Colonies or States, assisted in establishing American Independence during the war of the Revolution ; and no person other than such shall be eligible to membership in the Society.

ARTICLE V.

MEMBERS shall be elected as follows : Candidates may send their names and documents, or other proofs of qualification for membership, to the Board of Managers of the Society ; and upon a favorable report from said board, and upon payment of the initiation fee, shall thereupon become members of the Society. Provided, however, that whenever there is an auxiliary branch organized, as hereinafter provided, in the State or Territory wherein a candidate resides, he may send his application for membership to the Board of Managers thereof. The word " State," as above used, includes also the District of Columbia.

ARTICLE VI.

WHENEVER seven or more members, all residing in any one State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, shall present to the Board of Managers of the Society a petition that they may be authorized, as incorporators, to organize an auxiliary branch of the Society in said State or Territory, the Society shall, in its discretion, at a stated

or special meeting, by a vote of the majority of the members present, grant or refuse such petition.

ARTICLE VII.

AN auxiliary branch authorized as above shall have the following powers and limitations :

1. Its title shall be "Sons of the Revolution in the State (or Territory) of.....;" or, "in the District of Columbia."
2. It shall be subject to and bound by all the provisions of this Constitution, without power to alter or amend the same.
3. Its Board of Managers for the first year of its existence shall consist of its incorporators above mentioned, who shall have power to elect as members of the Society in such branch all persons qualified therefor under Article IV. of this Constitution.
4. Its Board shall adopt by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution, and provide therein for the election of officers and of succeeding boards of managers for such branch.
5. It shall forward for record to the Historian of the Society, immediately after the admission of any members, duplicates of the applications for membership and of other proofs, if any, upon which said members were admitted; and annually, on or before December 3d, in like manner forward lists of members and of their respective addresses, and of casualties which may have occurred.

6. Its jurisdiction shall be wholly confined to the State or Territory or District for which it is authorized.

ARTICLE VIII.

THE officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Historian, and a Board of Managers, consisting of those officers *ex-officio*, and so many other members as may be designated by the by-laws.

ARTICLE IX.

THE Society shall hold an annual meeting in the city of New York on the third day of December, in each and every year, at which a general election of officers by ballot shall take place, except when such date shall fall on Sunday in which event the meeting shall be held on the following day. In such election, a majority of the ballots given for any officer shall constitute a choice; but if, on the first ballot, no person shall receive such majority, then a further balloting shall take place, in which a plurality of votes given for any officer shall determine the choice. Each auxiliary branch shall also have its annual meeting and general election of its officers on the same day.

ARTICLE X.

WHENEVER a written complaint shall be presented to the President of the Society, either from the Society or from any auxiliary branch thereof, to the effect that the pro-

visions of the Constitution have been violated by the Society or by any auxiliary branch ; or, that any member or members of the Society, whether or not belonging to any auxiliary branch, have been guilty of conduct unbecoming to gentlemen, or subversive of the interests of the Society, the President of the Society shall call a council to meet in the city of New York, which council shall consist of himself, or of a representative designated by the Society and of the President, or designated representative of each of the auxiliary branches.

Such council shall have full power to compel conformity to the Constitution, and may rescind any act in violation thereof, and may revoke the authority given, as before provided, to any auxiliary branch. It shall also have full power to expel any member or members of the Society for conduct which it may judge to be unbecoming to gentlemen, or subversive of the best interests of the Society.

At such council a majority of the members entitled to be present shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XI.

THE seal of the Society shall be one and seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, and shall consist of the figure of a minute man in Continental uniform, standing on a ladder leading to a belfry ; in his left hand he holds a musket and an olive branch, while his right hand grasps a bell rope. Above, the cracked Liberty bell ; issuing therefrom a ribbon

bearing the motto of the Society, "Exegi Monumentum Aere Perennius." Across the top of the ladder on a ribbon the figures "1776," and at the left of the minute man and also on a ribbon the figures "1883," the year of the foundation of the Society ; the whole encircled by a band three-eighths of an inch wide ; thereon at the top thirteen stars of five points and at the bottom the legend "Sons of the Revolution." The following being a facsimile thereof :



ARTICLE XII.

THE insignia of the Society shall consist of the badge pendent from the ribbon by a ring of gold.

The badge of the Society shall be elliptical in form, with escaloed edges, one and one-quarter inches in length, and one inch and one-eighth in width, the whole surmounted by a gold eagle with wings displayed inverted. On the obverse side a medallion of gold in the centre, elliptical in form, bearing on its face the figure of a soldier in Continental uniform, with musket slung. Beneath, the figures "1775;" the medallion surrounded by thirteen raised gold stars of five points upon a border of dark blue enamel.

On the reverse side, in the centre, a medallion, corresponding in form to that on the obverse, and also in gold, bearing on its face Houdon's portrait of Washington in bas-relief, encircled by the legend, "Sons of the Revolution," and upon the reverse of the eagle the number of the particular badge engraved, the medallion surrounded by a plain gold border conforming in dimensions to the obverse, upon which members may have their names engraved in script.

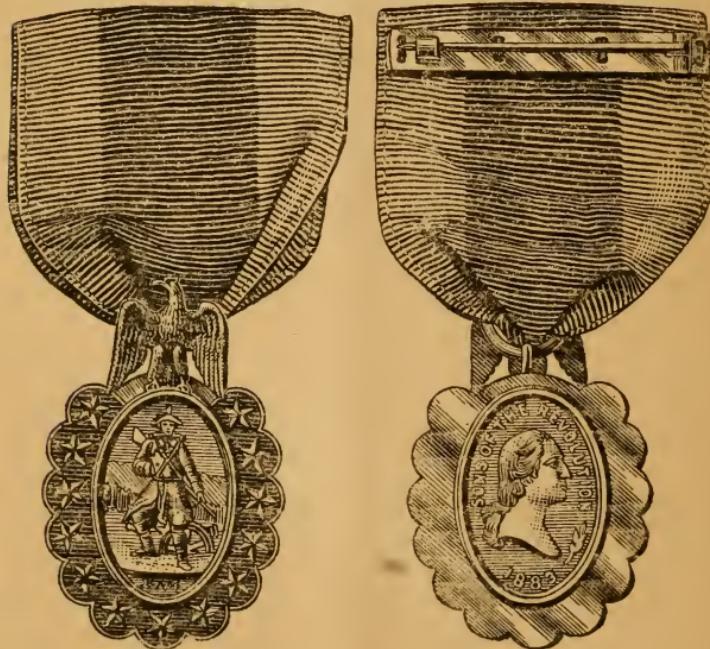
The ribbon of the Society shall be dark blue, ribbed, edged with buff, one and one-quarter inches wide and one inch and one-half in displayed length.

The insignia of the Society shall be worn by its members on all occasions when the members shall assemble as

such for any stated purpose or celebration. It shall be carried conspicuously on the left breast. The badge shall never be worn as an article of jewelry.

The Registrar of the Society shall have under his sole control the insignia and the die from which the same is made; shall alone issue the insignia to the members of the Society and of the auxiliary branches, and shall keep a record of all issued by him.

The following being a facsimile of said insignia:



ARTICLE XIII.

THIS Constitution shall be amended only by a vote in favor of such amendment cast by three-quarters of the members present at a general meeting of the Society and of the auxiliary branches, called for that purpose by the President of the Society, and held in the city of New York.

Notice shall be given of such proposed amendment two months previous to said meeting, by the President of the Society, who shall call such meeting whenever an amendment is presented to him by the Society or by any one or more of the auxiliary branches. Such notice as to auxiliary branches may be sent to the several secretaries of the same and communicated by them in the manner prescribed by their by-laws.







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